

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Brief Description of the Drawings beginning on page 4 line 19 through page 5 line 18 as follows:

Figure 1A illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool of the current invention with the cutter fully retracted.

Figure 1B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool of the current invention with the cutter fully advanced against the anvil.

Figure 2 illustrates the trephine, punch or coring tool applied to the apex of the ventricle of the heart prior to advancing the cutting blade.

Figure 3 illustrates the trephine, punch or coring tool after the blade has been advanced through the apex of the ventricular wall of the heart.

Figure 4 illustrates the ventricular wall after removal of the trephine, punch or coring tool and the excised tissue.

Figure 5A illustrates another embodiment of a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool with the anvil fully advanced.

Figure 5B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool with the anvil fully retracted against the cutter.

Figure 6A illustrates a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising a jackscrew to replace the function of the spring.

Figure 6B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising the jackscrew, wherein the cutter has been advanced against the anvil.

Figure 7A illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising a hydraulic cylinder to replace the function of the spring.

Figure 7B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool comprising the hydraulic cylinder, wherein the cutter has been advanced against the anvil.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10 line 1 as follows:

C2 "Alternatively, as illustrated in Figures 6A and 6B, the handle **20** may be rotated by a motor or gear motor **110** which is electrically powered by a battery disposed either external to or internal to the punch **10**. External battery power is delivered to the motor **110** through a cable with a plurality of conductors. On and off operation of the motor **110** is controlled through a switch on the punch knob **24** or the handle **20**, by a foot switch, or by a sound activated switch."

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 3 as follows:

C3 "In another embodiment, as illustrated in Figures 6A and 6B, the function of the spring **2022** is replaced by a threaded jackscrew assembly **104**. The shaft **14** is threaded and engages mating threads on the handle **20**. By rotating the handle **20**, the cutter **12** is rotated and simultaneously advanced proximally or distally in a positive displacement fashion. Figure 6A shows the coring tool **10** with the cutter **12** retracted away from the anvil **16**. Figure 6B shows the coring tool **10** with the cutter **12** advanced against the anvil **16**."

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11 line 9 as follows:

C4 "In yet another embodiment, as illustrated in Figures 7A and 7B, the function of the spring **2022** is replaced by a hydraulic cylinder **106** and hydraulic pressure source **108** with a valve or switch to control pressure into said cylinder **106**. Figure 7A shows the coring tool **10** with the cutter **12** retracted away from the anvil **16**. Figure 7B shows the coring tool **10** with the cutter **12** advanced against the anvil **16**."

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12 line 4 as follows:

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"The tapered tip **18** is affixed to the distal end of the shaft **14** in a stationary manner. Fixation of the tip **18** to the shaft **14** is accomplished by over-molding, a setscrew or by internal threads on the trocar or tapered tip **18** engaging male threads on the shaft **14**. The trocar or tapered tip **18** has a conical configuration and allows penetration of the hollow organ or vessel by the entire tip **18** anvil **16** assembly following an initial incision with a sharp surgical instrument. The distal end of the trocar **18** may be either sharp or rounded. Use of the sharp end on the trocar **18** permits use of the coring tool **10** without first making a separate surgical incision in the tissue. Longitudinal edges or ridges 102 are optionally disposed on the conical surface of trocar or tip **18** to enhance tissue penetration. Alternatively, the tip **18** may be oscillated or vibrated with an electrical actuator or motor to facilitate penetration into the tissue. The oscillation is useful for either blunt dissection or sharp dissection of the tissue."